

Appl. No. : 10/671,157
Amdt. dated May 8, 2006
Reply to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment of April 5, 2006

Remarks/Arguments

On May 5, 2006, attorneys Brian W. Foxworthy and Robert R. Waters met with Examiner Previl to discuss patent application number 10/671,157. As a result of the meeting, an agreement was reached concerning a modification to be made to Claims 1, 17 and 20. The resulting amendments to the claims are recited in the Examiner's interview summary. In this Office Action Response, Claims 1, 17, and 20 were amended, as listed above and discussed below, consistent with the agreement made at the meeting. In addition, Claims 3 and 18 have had their status identifiers corrected from "Amended" to "Currently Amended" in keeping with the Examiner's requirement.

Claim 1 has been amended to state "a releasable clutching means within said tag housing for retaining a portion of said tack shaft within said tag body, said releaseable clutching means utilizing at least three ball bearings acting upon said tack shaft" instead of "a releasable ball bearing clutching means within said tag housing for retaining a portion of said tack shaft within said tag body" to more clearly claim a clutch utilizing ball bearings to retain a section of the tack shaft.

Claim 17 has been amended to state "a releasable clutching means within said tag housing for retaining a portion of said tack shaft within said tag body, said releaseable clutching means utilizing at least three ball bearings acting upon said tack shaft" instead of "a releasable ball bearing clutching means within said tag housing for retaining a portion of said tack shaft within said tag body" to more clearly claim a clutch utilizing ball bearings to retain a section of

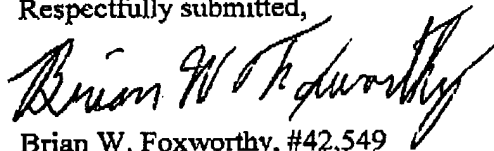
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the tack shaft.

Claim 20 has been amended to state "a releasable clutching means within said tag housing for retaining a portion of said tack shaft within said tag body, said releaseable clutching means utilizing at least three ball bearings acting upon said tack shaft" instead of "a releasable ball bearing clutching means within said tag housing for retaining a portion of said tack shaft within said tag body" to more clearly claim a clutch utilizing ball bearings to retain a section of the tack shaft.

Applicant respectfully requests that the above amendments be entered and the application be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian W. Foxworthy, #42,549
Counsel for Applicant

WATERS LAW OFFICE, PLLC
10503 Timberwood Circle
Suite 116
Louisville, KY 40223
Ph (502) 425-2424
Fax (502) 425-9724